



# Wisconsin Aviation Bulletin

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## Wisconsin Aviation Conference

The Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aeronautics has taken great pride and responsibility over the past 50+ years to bring the Wisconsin aviation community a quality aviation conference. This was accomplished with the assistance of various aviation individuals, businesses and associations. A decision was made by the department earlier this year to reduce our involvement and take a less active role in the conference. The department made the decision to pass the leadership of the Wisconsin Aviation Conference on to the Wisconsin Airport Management Association (WAMA). WAMA has expressed a willingness and agreed to take on this important responsibility and will continue to incorporate input from various organizations such as Wisconsin Aviation Trades Association, Wisconsin Business Aviation Association, aviation engineering and consulting firms. The Bureau of Aeronautics will continue providing forums such as the Land Use Planning Around Airports Symposium, Airport Operations and Management Seminar and the Airport Engineers Workshop. We want to thank all of you for your support, interaction and participation in making the conferences meaningful and a success. It is our hope you will extend your support to WAMA in their conference efforts.

## Aviation funding in 2004

Congress has a lot of work left to do to secure funding for 2004 airport improvements and other aviation-related work.

The differences between the House and Senate versions of the Airport Improvement Program reauthorization have been hammered out by conference committee and sent back to Congress to pass so it can be sent to the President for final approval. The bill, Flight 100 (HR 2115), is expected to be taken up in September, but debate over privatization of air traffic control operations could hold up passage for some time.

In order to actually release authorized funds, an appropriations bill approving funding must also be passed. So far, the House Appropriations Committee has approved a report (HR 2989) appropriating funds for 2004, which needs action by the full House. Senate appropriators still need to come up with their version for the Senate to pass. It is expected that the two Houses will appoint another conference committee to hammer out the differences before the two Houses can pass a bill for Presidential approval. We hope this will happen before the end of the year, but, as you can see, much work remains.

Wisconsin's Congressional representatives are interested in their constituents' views. Wisconsin is well represented in the appropriations area: Senator Herb Kohl is a member of the Transportation Appropriations Committee and Representative David Obey is the ranking Democrat in the House Committee on Appropriations. These two Web sites give the contact information for the House and Senate, respectively: <http://www.house.gov/writerep/> and [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm?State=WI](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=WI).

Wisconsin's 2003-2005 budget, just passed in July, will provide state funds for Wisconsin's airports. Most of this money will be used to cover the match on federal projects and prepare for next year's projects.

Fall is the time when many airport owners budget funds for next year's work. If your airport has improvements scheduled for 2004, check to make sure that funds for the work are included in the local budget.

## Directory now available

The 2003-04 Wisconsin Airport Directory & Pilot Guide is now available. One new feature in this edition of the directory is the date of each photo has been added in the lower left hand corner of the picture. The directories are available for \$3.00 each. Please send requests along with fee to: WisDOT, Bureau of



Aeronautics, P.O. Box 7914, Madison, WI 53707-7914. Requests for multiple copies should be placed with WisDOT Document Sales at (608) 246-3265. Changes made to the directory will be posted on the bureau's Web page at [www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/air/airportdirectory.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/air/airportdirectory.htm). Please direct any comments and corrections to Jeff Taylor at (608) 266-7347 or [jeffery.taylor@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:jeffery.taylor@dot.state.wi.us)

# Airport Spotlight

## Wausau Downtown Airport



The Wausau Downtown Airport is located within the Wausau city limits, 20 minutes from Merrill and Mosinee in north central Wisconsin. It is approximately 200 miles from Minneapolis to the west and approximately 200 miles from Milwaukee to the southeast.

The airport was built in the late 1920's with promotional assistance from Wisconsin paper company executives. The City of

Wausau did not purchase the airport until 1936 after which Wausau Downtown Airport received about \$200,000 of federal money. A portion of the original grant was used to construct a seaplane dock and ramp on Lake Wausau.

Wausau Downtown Airport is classified as a transport corporate airport. It is designed to handle corporate, charter, cargo and recreational users of jet, turboprop and piston driven aircraft. Five aviation companies operate from Wausau Downtown Airport. The airport provides facilities for emergency medical flights, law enforcement, agricultural spraying, pilot training, civil air patrol activities and many other important community services.

The airport has over 16,000 square feet of heated hangar space, 20 tie down locations, AviationSentry, pilot lounge and sleeping area, flight planning area, as well as a conference room and refreshment center.

In 2001, the Wausau Downtown Airport provided over \$1.1 million in economic output, supported 21 full-time jobs and contributed over \$475,000 in personal income to the local economy. The airport also generated an additional \$274,075 in sales, four jobs and \$122,261 in personal income to the state's economy.

## Profile

### Area Population

City of Wausau - 38,936  
County of Marathon - 125,834  
Marathon County Employment - 62,164  
Per Capita Personal Income - \$26,860

### Major Employers

Eastbay, Inc.  
Wausau Hospital  
Kolbe & Kolbe Millwork  
Wausau Insurance/Liberty Mutual  
Peachtree Companies  
Wausau School District  
Wausau-Mosinee Paper Corp.

### Airport Stats

4,950' x 100' primary runway with MIRL's, REIL's and VASI  
3,078 x 100' secondary runway with MIRL's  
FBO - Lake Air, LLC (715) 574-3400  
FBO - Wausau Flying Service (715) 848-6000

## Wisconsin System Update

The all-weather capability of Wisconsin airports continues to expand. In the last 12 months we received seven new RNAV (GPS) and one new localizer approach at Sawyer County in Hayward. Boyceville, Grand Geneva received IFR capability in 2003 after having none.

### New approaches coming soon:

- IFR capability (RNAV-GPS) for Viroqua (Y51)
- ILS 31 at Rock County (JVL)
- ILS 01 at Rice Lake (RPD)
- Approaches for the new runway at Morey-Middleton (C29)
- Approaches for the new runway at Waupaca (PCZ)
- Stand alone RNAV (GPS) approaches for Chetek (Y23)

As of the July 10, 2003 edition of Terminal Approach Procedures these are the number of approaches in Wisconsin:

- ILS x 22
- VOR or VOR/DME x 83
- LOC/SDF x 15
- NDB x 59
- RNAV (GPS) x 78
- GPS overlay of an existing VOR or NDB x 84



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## Eagle award presented

For the second straight year, WisDOT recognized Neenah pilot Ken Kellner as the "Wisconsin Eagle Award" winner. Over the last year, Kellner provided 234 youths free airplane rides as part of the international Young Eagles Program. In all, Kellner has flown nearly 400 "young eagles," to give young children their first flying experience and to encourage them to pursue careers in aviation. Kellner received his Wisconsin Eagle Award during Wisconsin Day at EAA.

## Land Use Planning Around Airports Symposium

The Bureau's third annual Land Use Planning Around Airports Symposium is scheduled for Tuesday, October 28, 2003 in Wisconsin Rapids, WI. This one-day symposium will present a wealth of information and exchange of information related to issues surrounding land use planning around airports. This event is geared for land use planners, zoning administrators, airport owners, and airport managers. Topics of this year's seminar include:

- o Zoning Options
- o Long range planning for your airport/community
- o Value of your investment
- o Tall towers knocking at your door
- o First hand experience of land use planning

The cost for this seminar is \$30. Registration information will be mailed in late September. Check the WisDOT Web site at [www.dot.wisconsin.gov/modes/air.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/modes/air.htm) for updates and registration form. Contact Karen Valley at the Bureau of Aeronautics at (608)-266-8166, with any questions.

## AIRPORT CONSTRUCTION NEWS

### Dane County Regional Airport

Construction is continuing to progress with good results on the airport's main terminal building which is in the third phase of a four-phase project. A portion of the expansion area under this project is expected to open to public use in mid-February. After that, the emphasis of the project shifts to the complex phasing of renovations and upgrades to the existing facility. This phase will also involve the moving of tenants. All of this work needs to occur while maintaining



security and remaining open to the public for use as a "normal" airport terminal. The fourth phase of the terminal project is in the final design stage and is anticipated to be bid by spring of 2004. This phase will add a new commuter concourse at the south end of the terminal building.

### Outagamie County Regional Airport

Construction started mid-August on a new GA hangar area and run-up pad. The new GA area will allow for expanded development in the southern portion of the airport. It will also allow GA activities on a different portion of the airport from the commercial airline activities which is beneficial from an operational and security standpoint. The run-up pad is being located on the northeastern part of the airport which will allow for aircraft undergoing engine maintenance a place to conduct high power engine run-ups. Currently Air Wisconsin and Gulfstream Aerospace conduct these run-ups on the airport's existing taxiway system. Having a separate location will enhance safety by avoiding active taxiways. Additionally, an earth berm will be placed around the pad to further reduce any potential noise impacts.

### Morey Airport - Middleton

Construction crews began moving earth last month to build a new 4,000-foot runway at Middleton's Morey Airport. The new runway will replace the narrow, existing 3,000' runway, and the project will include airfield lighting, a parallel taxiway, apron, hangar taxiways, an access road, and automobile parking. The newly rebuilt airport will enhance the transportation infrastructure of Middleton, the west side of Madison, and western Dane County. Several corporations in Middleton and on Madison's west side are expected to use the airport as a base for their corporate flight operations.



### Merrill Municipal Airport

Merrill Municipal Airport construction started in mid-August. The primary runway will be extended along with relocation of a taxiway. The primary Rwy 7/25 will be 5,100' with new medium intensity runway lights, PAPI's & REIL's.



## Bureau Staffing News



*Jan Severson*

### Jan Severson

In July, Jan Severson left the Bureau of Aeronautics to start a new position in the Division of Transportation Infrastructure Development, Office of Administrative Services (OAS). Jan started in Aeronautics as a Program Assistant in 1988 and was promoted to Business Services Section Chief in 1998. Her new duties in OAS will include developing and managing the OAS and Administrator's Web activities, including the Division's Administrative Manual, managing division records and developing databases.

### James Hughes, P.E.

Jim Hughes left the bureau's Airport Engineering Section in March. He accepted a promotion as a TSS CE Trans Supervisor in the Division of Transportation Districts (DTD). Jim started in Aeronautics as an Airport Development Engineer in 1993. He worked with many construction projects including: Rice Lake, Central Wisconsin, Dane County, and Marshfield.



*James Hughes*

### New AWOS sites

Three additional Automated Weather Observation Systems will soon be operating at Tomahawk, Menomonie and Waupaca airports. The systems report current weather conditions that are updated every minute and reported every 20 minutes to the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Weather Service (NWS) circuits. Weather information will be available by telephone or VHF radio in the vicinity of the airport. Tomahawk was the first airport to use their GA entitlements on the purchase of an AWOS installation. All sites will be used to assist the NWS in their forecast modeling.



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### Calendar of Events

October 28, Wisconsin Rapids  
**Land Use Planning Around Airports Symposium**

October 29, Wisconsin Rapids  
**Airport Operations & Management Seminar**

November 1-2, Oshkosh  
**Flight Instructor Refresher Course**

May 10-12, 2004, La Crosse  
**Wisconsin Aviation Conference (WAMA)**

### GCOs

There were a number of Ground Communication Outlets (GCO) installed in the state; Shell Lake, Osceola, Rusk County and Iowa County. New Richmond replaced an existing one. GCOs allow a pilot on the ground to contact the FAA for weather information or IFR clearances, eliminating the need for void times or VFR climbs. Any airport with an instrument approach is encouraged to call and inquire about installing a GCO.

### Wall charts still available

1994 folded wall charts are still available for free. Unfolded, these maps are 46" x 54." Contact the Bureau at (608) 266-3351 if interested. Supply is limited; requests will be on a first come first serve basis.